

The Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection made in the final Office Action of January 25, 2005.

The Examiner rejects claims 6, 7 and 9 for minor informalities which have been corrected. Claims 6 and 9 were typographical errors and claim 7 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

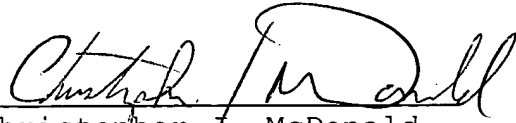
Claims 1-10 are rejected as being indefinite, as the Examiner does not see how the wire rest is spaced from the end of the first wire. The Examiner then rejects claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 10 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,725,230 (Harima) and claims 6 and 9 as being obvious in view of Harima.

Attached to this response is an annotated Figure 2 showing the claimed elements. Seen in this view is the first wire 11 extending past the two molars 40. The end of the first wire is spaced near the second molar 40. The wire rest, extending from the first wire 11, is shown as positioned between the premolar 30 and first molar 40. Therefore, the rest 17, while extending from the first wire, is spaced from the end of the first wire, as is claimed. The retainer disclosed by Harima does not have a wire rest meeting this limitation of claim 1. Clasp 16 extends from the second wire 12 and is the subject of dependent claims.

The pending claims are allowable over the cited art and favorable action is eagerly and earnestly solicited. If any issues remain and the Examiner believes a telephone conversation would resolve such issues, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

If any fees are due and owing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2455.

Respectfully submitted,

by 
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